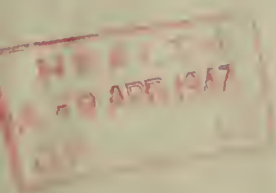


LIBRARY



A N N U A L R E P O R T
O F T H E
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
A N D T H E
S A N I T A R Y I N S P E C T O R

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER, 1946.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

to the Chairman and Members of the
Felixstowe Urban District Council,

for the year ended December 31st, 1946.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In calculating the population for the Urban district, I find that the addition of the excess of births over deaths to the Registrar's estimate for 1945 giving the figure 9,609, is insufficient, considering the return of residents who were away during the war. Information obtained from the National Registration Office and the Food Office gives the figure 12,774 as much more probably correct.

Birth Rate

Adopting this estimate, the birth rate is 21 per thousand the same as last year.

Death Rate

152 deaths were registered in the district; there were 22 inward and 21 outward transfers, so that there are 153 properly belonging to the district, giving a rate of 12 per thousand.

Infantile mortality rate

18 deaths of infants under one year of age were registered in the District; three of these were outward transfers so that the net number is 15, and the rate 54 per thousand births registered. Of the births registered, 142 were males and 134 females. 13 males and 4 females were illegitimate.

There were 2 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, giving a rate of .15 per thousand.

The deaths from cancer after deducting 4 for outward, and adding 2 for inward transfers, were 23 giving a rate of 1.8 per thousand of estimated population and 15 per cent of the total number of deaths.

The details of cancer mortality are given in a special table at the end of this report.

Notifiable infectious disease

Among the civilian population two cases of diphtheria were notified and sent to the Isolation Hospital, Ipswich. Both of these were negatived on bacteriological examination at the hospital.

Two cases of Poliomyelitis were notified, one of which was a newly arrived visitor. Two cases of Jaundice were notified.

Among His Majesty's forces, two cases of recurrent malaria were notified and two cases of Jaundice.

Water supply and sewage disposal were fully dealt with in my report for 1945 and there is nothing to add. Analyses of water by the company's officials and the sanitary inspector have invariably given satisfactory results. All details of milk analyses, food inspection and abatement of nuisances are fully given in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.

Sessions are held weekly at the Salvation Army Hall, Walton, on Thursdays at 2 p.m.

The following report gives details of the work done in connection with the Centre.

Midwifery patients	83
Maternity patients (booked)	150
<hr/>	
General nursing patients	257 visits
Casual visits	223
Number of nursing visits	1310
Maternity visits	3590
General visits	1579
Miscarriages (visits)	223
Total visits	7182
<hr/>	

Public Health Visits

Birth to 5 years	3777
Tuberculosis visits	82
Ante-natal visits	945
Total	4804
<hr/>	

Clinic Visits

Children in Felixstowe	2864
Children in Kirton	84
Ante and post natal visits	975
Children seen by Doctor	1478
Total	5401
<hr/>	

Diphtheria Immunisation during 1946

Clinics for diphtheria Immunisation are held at the Child welfare centre on days appointed by the County Health Authority. Arrangements are also made for immunisation at the County Hall, Ipswich, and a few are done privately by the medical men of this district, who are supplied with the vaccine by the County authority.

The child population at the middle of the year is estimated as follows:-

Age group	0-4 years	1010
"	" 5-14 "	1480

Details of the completed immunisation are as follows:-

	<u>Under 5 years.</u>	<u>5-14 years.</u>
From Jan. 1st to June 30th 1946.	90	7
From July 1st to Dec. 31st	74	41
Total.	164	48

Total number recorded as having received immunisation since the commencement of the procedure - 849.

Hospital Accommodation.

The Felixstowe Cottage Hospital has 34 beds, is staffed by the medical men of the district and serves the needs of Felixstowe and Walton, Trimley and Falkenham. The staff and secretary publish an annual report of its work.

The Suffolk Convalescent Home receives patients, both children and adults from this district, London and elsewhere.

The Bartlett Convalescent Home serves the needs of the East Suffolk Hospital, Ipswich and the Herman de Stearn Home (at present unoccupied) those of the London Hospital.

District Nursing Association.

The association is supported partly by voluntary contributions and partly by a county grant. There are three fully certificated District nurses, who are also in charge of the Maternity and Child welfare centre, under supervision of a doctor appointed by the County authority. There is also a part time Health visitor who is appointed by the County authority and does not reside in the district, but visits Felixstowe, Trimley, Kirton and Falkenham.

The tables given with this report are correct up to the time of writing and may require correction when the final returns from the County Authority and the Registrar are received, though it is improbable that the vital statistics will need any appreciable alteration. Some differences may be noticed in the mortality table through the selection of the cause of death in certain individual instances, as in the death noted on the Tuberculosis table where three causes are mentioned under anyone of which the death might have been classified.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

G. J. CONFORD, D.M. (Oxon) M.O.H.

FELIXSTOWE URBAN DISTRICT

TUBERCULOSIS TABLE FOR YEAR 1946.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non Pulm.</u>		
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	
Number on register on Jan. 1st 1946.	21	14	6	3	
Number added during the year	7	6	2	2	
Removed during the year	2	6	2	2	
On register on Dec. 31st, 1946.	26	14	6	3	
Deaths		1		1	

Note. The death recorded in the mortality return of a male patient is not included as he was not previously on the register.

He was certified as follows:-

Cardiac failure
Pulmonary tuberculosis
Tubercular peritonitis.

FELIXSTOWE URBAN DISTRICT
TABLE OF CANCER MORTALITY FOR 1946.

Region Affected			Age Periods						
	25-45		45-65		65 & Over		Totals		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Stomach					2	1	2	1	
Duodenum						1		1	
Colon				1	3	1	3	2	
Rectum				1	1		1	1	
Pancreas	1				1		2		
Tongue					1		1		
Eye			1				1		
Ear				1				1	
Breast				1		3		4	
Uterus		1						1	
Ovary				1				1	
Lung				1		1		2	
Totals	1	1	1	6	8	7	10	14	
Inward Transfers					1	1	1	1	
Outward Transfers		1		1		1		3	
Total belonging to District	1	0	1	5	9	7	11	12	

FELIXSTOWE URBAN DISTRICT

MORTALITY TABLE FOR 1946.

	0-1		1-5		5-15		Age Periods				45-65		65 & Over		Total		Transfers In Out				Total belonging to District.		Total Both Sexes
							15-25	25-45	45-65	65 & Over													
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Pneumonia										1	1	3			1	1	1	1			4		4
Bronchitis									1	3	2	3							2	3			5
Pulmonary tuberculosis							1			1	1	1							1	1			2
Other tubercular diseases																1				1			1
Heart disease and Senile Myocardial degeneration								1			2	2	2	1	2	2	3	2			28		51
Cerebral Haemorrhage Thrombosis and Embolism	1								4	4	14	18			1	1	2	1		17			30
Cancer											5	10	15		1	1	1	3			13		23
Nephritis										2	2	2	2		1	1			2	3			5
Pernicious Anaemia										1		1								1			1
Prematurity, congenital debility and other abnormalities of the newborn.	6	10										6	10				2	1		4	9		13
Gastro-enteritis	1										1							1			1		1
Carried forward	7	11					1	2	4		9	14	40	48	58	78	6	11	9	8	55	81	136

	0-1		1-5		5-15		Age Periods				65 & Over		Total		Transfers				Total belonging to District.		Total Both Sexes		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F					
																			15-25			25-45	
Brought forward	7	11			1	2	4				9	14	40	48	58	78	6	11	9	8	55	81	136
Influenza									1						1						1		1
Appendicitis													1		1		1				2		2
Pulmonary Embolism													1		1						1		1
Other diseases												1	3	4	3	5	2	1	1	1	4	5	9
Accidental deaths														3		3	1		2		1	1	2
Suicides													1		2						2		2
TOTALS	7	11			1	3	4				10	15	45	55	66	86	10	12	10	11	66	87	153

Estimated population - 12,774

Birth Rate - 21 per thousand.

Death Rate - 12 per thousand.

Infantile Mortality Rate - 54 per thousand births registered.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1946.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

230 complaints were received during the year.
342 notices were served; 338 informal and 4 statutory.
(3 under the Housing Act and 1 under the Public Health Act.)

Water Supply.

Two samples of the Town's water supply were submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination. Both were satisfactory and the report on the later one I give below:-

Chemical Analysis.

Source Town Supply. Tap, South Beach Mansion.

Collected 19.9.46 - 10 a.m.

Analysis.

Physical Characteristics: Bright and Clear.

	<u>Grains per Gallon.</u>
Free & Saline Ammonia	.0007
Albuminoid Ammonia	.0007
Combined Chlorine	2.4
Nitrogen as Nitrates	.60
Nitrites	Nil
Total Solids in Solution	
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. @ 80°F.	Nil
Poisonous Metals	
Hardness before Boiling (total)	13.6 °
" after Boiling (permanent)	5.9 °

Opinion:-

This is a pure and wholesome water, in every way fit for drinking and all the purposes of a public supply.

(Signed) W. LINCOLNE SUTTON.

Public Analyst,
Norfolk & Suffolk County Laboratories,
Clement Court,
Redwell Street,
Norwich.

Bacteriological Examination.

Presumptive Coli. = Nil per 100 c.c.

Plate Count:-

2 days @ 37°C. = 5 per c.c.
3 days @ R.T. = 3 per c.c.

Bacteriological findings satisfactory.

(Signed) W. RYAN.

p.p. Acting County Bacteriologist,
County Laboratory,
Bond Street,
Ipswich.

13 samples of water from private wells were submitted for examination as follows:-

Girls Boarding School. - (Shallow wells - chlorinated)

Four samples taken; two unsatisfactory, the cause being failure to work the chlorinating plant properly. I have made colour tests to check up the degree of chlorination about once a month during the latter part of the year.

Boys Boarding School.

Well water reported by Bacteriologist "Not very satisfactory, though free from harmful pollution." Well has since been cleaned out and will be sampled after an interval.

Felixstowe Ferry.

A new tank installed to give additional storage at the Ferry yielded an unsatisfactory sample of water in June. Further samples were taken at the first houses beyond the other two storage tanks (Mariners Cottage and Fairhaven) both these returned good samples indicating that the new tank had not been sufficiently chlorinated. This has since been done and a good sample of water obtained from the tank.

Two samples were taken from cottage wells and one from a deep well at Gulpher Farm where it is proposed to pipe the supply to adjacent farm cottages. All these samples showed a good supply.

Two houses in Grange Road, hitherto using a shallow well, were connected to the mains during the year. There are still five cottages in Grange Road, one house in Mill Lane, and one in High Street, within reach of the mains but not connected to Town's water.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are eleven houses within easy reach of the sewer but still provided with pail closets the contents of which are not emptied by the Council but are disposed of by the tenants on the cottage gardens. Two of these cottages will be provided with closets connected to the new sewer on the Grange Road Housing Estate when this is laid.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Houses inspected under Public Health Act or Housing Act.	142
No. of inspections and revisits made	540

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT

Bakehouses	47
Fishfryers	62
Beach Hut Sites	59
Stables, Piggeries & keeping of Animals	25
Overcrowding	5
Refuse accommodation	74
Ice Cream	34
Tents, Vans & Camping Sites	74
Sanitary defects and nuisances	174
Accumulations	46
Smoke observations	26
Houses re Vermin	14
Cesspools	40
Closet accommodation	50

MILK & DAIRIES

Cowsheds	49
Dairies & Milkshops	63
Samples of Milk taken	24

MEAT

Slaughterhouses	7
Butchers shops and food preparing premises	89

FACTORY & WORKSHOPS

Factories & Workshops	115
-----------------------	-----

DRAINS

Inspected	134
Tested with water	6
- do - smoke	14
Choked drains cleared	74
Repaired or relaid (ft. run) (213 feet)	

MISCELLANEOUS

Water samples	15
Shops inspected (Shops Act)	56
Requisitioned Houses	27
Rats	36
Food Inspections	98
Water Supply	52
Mosquitos	9

Total

2,280

SHOPS ACT 1934.

Under this Act the Council are responsible for heating, ventilation and sanitary accommodation and the County Council for lighting and the provision of facilities for washing and the taking of meals in shops.

No. of shops inspected during the year - 56

Infringements found:-

Insufficient sanitary accommodation	1
No separate accommodation for sexes	3
No adequate heating facilities	2

No certificates exempting premises from the requirements relating to the provision of sanitary accommodation were issued but one was withdrawn because of changed circumstances, affecting the tenancy of the shop and the owner required to provide a separate sanitary convenience.

CAMPING SITES

Number of sites licensed for camping during the
year - 3.

Number of licenses issued to station caravans on
land - 3.

The above details do not relate to Beach Hut sites where a certain amount of 'camping' is done not easily controlled by the Council under the slender powers conferred by the Public Health Act 1936.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

The district is generally speaking free from industrial smoke. Complaints were received of smoke nuisance from two small concerns and informal action to abate the nuisance was taken.

FACTORIES ACT 1937.

<u>Premises</u>	<u>No. inspected.</u>
Factories with Mechanical Power	25
Factories without Mechanical Power	32
Defects found:-	
Want of cleanliness limewashing overdue	9
Inadequate ventilation, temperature, etc.	-
Overcrowding	-
Sanitary Convenience	
Defective and insufficient	12
Not separated by ventilated space	5
Other defects	2
Notices given	28
No. of inspections made	115

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK

There are 6 registered cowsheds in the Urban District; two producing tuberculin tested milk, three producing accredited and one an ungraded milk. Conditions in these cowsheds are generally good and no action has been called for under the Milk and Dairies Order throughout the year.

Milk (Special Designations) Order.

The following special milk licences were issued during 1946:-

Bottler of Tuberculin Tested	1
Bottler of Accredited	1
Pasteuriser	-
Dealer in Tuberculin Tested	1
Dealer in Pasteurised	1
	-
	4
	=

EXAMINATIONS OF MILK FOR CLEANLINESS.

24 samples of milk submitted to the East Suffolk County Council Laboratory were:-

	No. taken	Result	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tested	11	8	3
Accredited	4	4	-
Pasteurised	8	8	-
Ungraded (ordinary milk)	1	1	-
<hr/>			
	24	21	3
<hr/>			

Total visits paid to Dairies during the year - 63

ICE CREAM

This commodity which is of particular importance in a seaside town came prominently into the news during the year because of unfortunate happenings elsewhere. At present there are no Public Health regulations dealing specifically with this article of food though some are promised for the coming year.

As the law stands not everyone who manufactures ice cream for sale to the public is obliged to seek approval of the local authority for his premises, plant and processes before he begins to do so. Exemptions from registration exist for any premises "used primarily as a club, hotel, inn or restaurant" and cinemas, theatres, etc., are exempt unless they actually manufacture ice cream on their premises. The persons requiring to register are those whose principal business is the manufacture and sale of ice cream and those who deal in it from stores, confectioners shops and the like.

As ice cream should be manufactured under dairy conditions with separate utensils, proper sterilizing equipment and hygienic storage, it is precisely in these exempted categories where need for greater control arises. One cannot ensure

that in the ordinary cafe-restaurant utensils used for mixing ice cream will not also be used in the preparation of any other item on the menu and in any case they are all washed and stored together and rarely, if ever, separately sterilized.

Premises registered in Felixstowe according to existing law:-

Manufacturers - 3.

Dealers - 6.

but all cafes, restaurants, etc., from which ice cream is sold to the public were inspected during the season, and one dealer who had begun to manufacture ice cream under unsuitable conditions ceased to do so as a result of informal action.

Ice cream falls into three categories according to the method of manufacture. These are, in descending order of merit, pasteurised, hot mix and cold mix. Only pasteurised icecream has the blessing of the Ministry of Health as a really satisfactory, safeguarded product.

The ice cream made and sold in Felixstowe is principally hot mix. Up to now no pasteurised ice cream has been manufactured locally for sale. With the advent of the new regulations the production of pasteurised ice cream will increase. All our local dealers who manufacture in quantity, and those who have sought advice about starting business next season, have agreed to pasteurise. Small pasteurising plants may be improvised but for those who wish to deal in larger amounts the difficulty is to get the necessary plant. Most of the persons registered as dealers only, buy ice cream from large distributing firms who have always pasteurised their product.

All makers of ice cream whether under obligation to register or not will have to comply with the new regulations which prescribe the temperature at which the mix must be heated, and to which it must be cooled and kept until sale. No standard, either chemical or bacteriological has, however, been fixed in the draft regulations and there is no provision for the compulsory sterilisation of utensils as there is in the law governing the treatment of similar utensils in dairies. To this extent, and because exemptions from registration still remain in force, the new regulations fall short of what is necessary to give public health authorities a proper measure of control over ice cream.

Food Inspections

The 5 slaughterhouses in the district have not been used since the early days of the war except for the slaughter of an occasional householder's pig. 2 slaughtermen retain their licences under the Slaughter of Animals Act.

PUBLIC HEALTH SHELLFISH REGULATIONS 1934.

Whelks are obtained from Cobbolds Point and Shingle Street and are sent in considerable quantities to London. They are cooked before despatch to market. Winkles are obtainable from the estuary of the Orwell but are not gathered for trade purposes.

Particulars of food condemned during the year.-

	<u>tins.</u>		<u>lbs.</u>
Tinned milk	265	Fish	899
" meat	59	Meat	90
" fruit	30	Cereals	47
" fish	112	Pudding mixture	41
" jam	4	Dates	114
" beans	49	Prunes	49 $\frac{1}{4}$
" peas	26	Oranges	330
" soup	4	Raisins	37
" syrup	5	Margarine	$\frac{3}{4}$
" vegetables	5		
" fish & meat	59		
pastes.			
" macaroni & cheese	8		
" mincemeat	3		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	578		1,608
	<hr/>		<hr/>

RAT & MICE DESTRUCTION

The Council adopted the block clearance scheme of the Ministry of Food and began a survey of every house, shop and other building in the district for rat infestation on the 15th July, 1946. The survey is now (January 1947) nearing completion. There is no doubt that this method is the really effective one to combat the rat who has dwelt amongst us in considerable numbers. In Felixstowe we have no large major infestations from which rats spread but we have many minor infestations some of which might not have come to official notice had not the survey been made. 270 such infestations were found at private houses and treated under the scheme without cost to the householder and 17 at business premises which were treated under contract and the cost charged to the occupier.

6 of the Council's own properties were also treated. Total kill, at a conservative estimate was - 1,738 Rats. No. of carcasses recovered - 577.

Rats in Sewers

The Public sewers were treated according to the Ministry's recommended method of pre-baiting and poisoning in September. The Surveyor reported on this operation as follows:-

Total No. of manholes baited	496
Manholes showing complete take	21
" " partial	39
Manholes showing no take	436
Manholes showing complete	
poison take	16
Manholes showing partial	
poison take	26
Manholes showing no poison	
take	18
No. of dead rats found	2

Disinfections

88 disinfections of rooms, bedding, etc., were carried out during the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT GREENWOOD,
C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

Sanitary Inspector.

